

What is claimed is:

1. A magenta ink composition, wherein when the  $a^*$  value in accordance with the CIE standard that is calculated from a visible absorption spectrum is 80 in a diluted aqueous solution with a dilution ratio of 10,000 or less, the  $b^*$  value is -29 or less.
2. The magenta ink composition according to claim 1, wherein the  $L^*$  value is 60 or less.
3. The magenta ink composition according to claim 1, wherein the  $a^*$  value in accordance with the CIE standard that is calculated from a visible absorption spectrum is 7 or more in a diluted aqueous solution with a pigment concentration of  $2 \times 10^{-3}$  g/L.
4. The magenta ink composition according to claim 1, comprising C. I. Pigment Violet 32 as the pigment.
5. The magenta ink composition according to claim 4, wherein the concentration of the C. I. Pigment Violet 32 is 4 wt.% or less.
6. A magenta ink composition, wherein when the  $a^*$  value in accordance with the CIE standard that is calculated from a visible absorption spectrum is 80 in a diluted aqueous solution with a dilution ratio of 10,000 or less, the  $b^*$  value is -38 or more to -29 or less.
7. The magenta ink composition according to claim 6, wherein the  $L^*$  value in accordance with the CIE standard is 60 or less.
8. The magenta ink composition according to claim 6, wherein the  $a^*$  value in accordance with the CIE standard that is calculated from a visible absorption spectrum is 5 or more in a diluted aqueous solution with a

pigment concentration of  $2 \times 10^{-3}$  g/L.

9. The magenta ink composition according to claim 6, comprising at least C. I. Pigment Violet 32 and C. I. Pigment Violet 19 as pigments.

10. The magenta ink composition according to claim 9, wherein the  
5 mixing ratio of the C. I. Pigment Violet 32 and the C. I. Pigment Violet 19 is 1 : 2 to 2 : 1.

11. The magenta ink composition according to claim 9, wherein the sum concentration of the C. I. Pigment Violet 32 and the C. I. Pigment Violet 19 is 4 wt.% or less.

10 12. The magenta ink composition according to claim 1 or 6, comprising a 14-30 wt.% organic solvent with a high boiling point.

13. The magenta ink composition according to claim 12, wherein the organic solvent with a high boiling point includes glycerin.

14. The magenta ink composition according to claim 1 or 6,  
15 comprising a pigment as a coloring material and also a dispersant for dispersing the pigment at 10-140 wt.% based on the pigment.

15. The magenta ink composition according to claim 1 or 6, comprising a 1-20 wt.% permeation enhancer.

16. The magenta ink composition according to claim 1 or 6,  
20 comprising 0.01-5 wt.% of at least one of acetylene glycol-type compound and silicone-type compound.

17. An ink cartridge comprising the magenta ink composition according to claim 1 or 6.

18. A recording method for forming an image by using the magenta  
25 ink composition according to claim 1 or 6.

19. A recording system for forming an image by using the magenta ink composition according to claim 1 or 6.

20. A recorded matter where an image is formed by using the magenta ink composition according to claim 1 or 6.

5 21. An ink set comprising the magenta ink composition according to claim 1 or 6.

22. The ink set according to claim 21, further comprising a yellow ink and a cyan ink.

23. The ink set according to claim 22, wherein the pigment  
10 concentration of the yellow ink is 5.5% or less and the pigment concentration of the cyan ink is 4% or less.

24. The ink set according to claim 22, wherein the yellow ink includes C. I. Pigment Yellow 74 and the cyan ink includes C. I. Pigment Blue 15:3 as pigments, respectively.

15 25. The ink set according to claim 21, further comprising a black ink.

26. The ink set according to claim 21, wherein each ink includes a pigment as a coloring material and also includes a dispersant for dispersing the pigment at 10-140 wt.% based on the pigment, respectively.

27. The ink set according to claim 21, wherein each ink includes a  
20 0.1-30 wt.% organic solvent with a high boiling point.

28. The ink set according to claim 21, wherein each ink includes a 1-20 wt.% permeation enhancer.

29. The ink set according to claim 21, wherein each ink includes 0.01-5 wt.% of at least one of acetylene glycol-type compound and silicone-  
25 type compound.

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30. An ink cartridge comprising the ink set according to claim 21.

31. A recording method for forming an image by using the ink set according to claim 21.

32. A recording system for forming an image by using the ink set  
5 according to claim 21.

33. A recorded matter where an image is formed by using the ink set according to claim 21.